

# Olpin Mortuary: Serving with Warmth & Sincerity

The Olpins have been operating the Mortuary for three generations, here in Heber. It seems the whole valley has been Guy's family, so it's not surprising that the Olpin family took great care in choosing the new owners.

Gene and Terry Hoopes have come to serve their community with old fashioned warmth and sincerity. We thought you might enjoy getting to know them a little better. Gene was born in Star Valley, Wyoming. When Gene was a boy, and was out riding his bike, there was one car that always caught his attention, and he just had to follow that big black car. Some little boys may have probably chased fire trucks, ambulances, or cop cars, but not Gene. His interest was in that big black Hearse.

Although the Star Valley funeral directors always brushed him away, his interest only grew stronger as time went on. Gene's family moved to Afghanistan when he was 10, so his Dad could teach Veterinarian Science to the people there. He lived there for five years and attended international schools, where he was sometimes the only American.

When they came home, his family settled in Buffalo, Wyoming where he graduated from high school. After high school Gene was able to serve a full-time mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day

Saints under President Vaughn J. Featherstone, in the Texas San Antonio Mission. Shortly after returning home Gene married Terry in the Salt Lake Temple. They began their life together in Dallas so Gene could attend Mortuary School. He did his apprenticeship in Riverton, Wyoming.

The Richard's family asked Gene to help them put Wasatch Lawn together in Salt Lake, on Highland Drive. It was during this five year period that our friendship with the Olpin family began. Our opportunity to own our own funeral home came to us in Lander Wyoming.

In Lander we fell in love with the small town atmosphere and believed we would live there forever, but the Lord put his hand in our lives again and brought us to this beautiful Heber Valley to serve alongside of the Olpin family, where together we share the deepest respect.

We have found the Olpins are wonderful people to work with, and you will find Guy is still on most of the funerals. Shirley is often in the office with Terry. Mark Olpin has stayed on full-time. Brian Jorgensen has gone forward with a new career choice in the real estate area, but sometimes even he is still around helping out. So not much has really changed, as the Olpins have added Gene and Terry Hoopes to their caring staff.

